

MERCHANTS URGE METRIC SYSTEM

Boston Firm Writes in Favor of Passage of the Litzauer Bill.

SCIENTISTS ARE ACTIVE

American Meteorological Society Receives Hearty Responses from Many Sources Supporting Change.

JAPANESE PREFER DECIMALS

Order Material in Germany and France When Exact Dimensions Are Important.

HERALD BUREAU, No. 74 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y., N. Y., Saturday, March 3, 1906.

In advocacy of the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures in this country, the American Meteorological Society has been active with admirable results. The Committee on Legislation, of which Simon Newcomb, of Washington, is chairman, and Professor J. H. Gore, of George Washington University, is secretary, has received highly satisfactory answers to letters inviting the attention of interested associations, firms and individuals to the Litzauer bill, providing for the use of the metric system in the government departments after July 1, 1908.

Among the letters which Mr. Gore has on file is this from William Plimmes Sons' Company, dry goods merchants, of Boston:

"At a meeting of the managers of this house it was voted to urge upon Congress the passage of a bill introduced by Representative L. N. Litzauer on the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures in the departments of the government."

"The metric system, so far as it has been adopted in commerce, has been found to work so satisfactorily that it is hoped this bill will be passed, that a very early general adoption by domestic trade will follow, and that the teaching of this system will receive more and immediate attention in schools."

Frederick Brooks, a prominent civil engineer, of Boston, has written to Professor Gore, expressing his approval of the steps taken for metric legislation and stating that he already has extended his influence in behalf of the measure. He also enclosed an article in which he discusses "the folly of reckoning by cubons which differ widely in Canada and the United States, while all countries have identical lines and cubic measures." This was originally printed in the journal of the New England Water Works Association, and is another of many demonstrations of the fact that the present lack of system in the weights and measures is a handicap in all varieties of business. Mr. Brooks emphatically declares adoption of the metric system to be the way out of existing confusion.

Among other steps taken by the Meteorological Society to bring the superiority and profit of the use of the metric system home to the people of the United States, has been the compilation of opinion of representative men in various practical walks of life. One of the most convincing was that of L. Weissensel, formerly a large city general of the International Railway Congress and Chief Engineer of the Belgian State Railways. He said:

"As a secretary of the Railway Congress, and from scientific interests, I am happy to understand that the metric system has some chance of being adopted in the United States, but as a citizen of Belgium I may perhaps regret it because it would greatly aid the American to compete with Belgian interests in countries to which they export."

The Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures of the House, having been told last week by an enemy of the metric system that it had not proved satisfactory or even gained a foothold in the Orient, this extract from a report made by Colonel Howard Vincent on Japanese trade will prove convincing evidence to the contrary.

"The director of the Imperial Japanese Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel T. Ota, an experienced officer, with European training, expressed himself as fully sensible of the excellency of the metric system, and its superiority in cost, quality, workmanship and originality of design. Notwithstanding these advantages he considered it so easy for mistakes to be made in the measurements by feet and inches that when exact dimensions were important, his government preferred to order in Imperial units from Crouzet in France, and Krupp in Germany, where the metric system is used, so that it might be relieved of trouble and anxiety."

URGES THAT ALL ALIENS BE ADMITTED

Nathan Bijur, Before House Committee, Makes a Plea for Unrestricted Immigration.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Saturday.—Nathan Bijur, connected with many Hebrew benevolent associations of New York city, was heard at length to-day by the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization and took the position generally against all of the proposed further restrictions to immigration.

Mr. Bijur based his position on the ground that the United States stood in the world for principles of religious and political freedom, and that to close our doors to the oppressed in these respects was to abandon those principles.

In answering direct questions as to the crowded conditions of the tenements in New York, he said that these European immigrants were much better than a number of years ago and that there always were poor and suffering humanity in every large city.

These same conditions of suffering he had witnessed in Alaska during the last year. The fact that many people went to New York was evidence that there was a market there for their labor.

PASSED ABANDONED SHIP.

The Schooner John R. Berger, Deserted, Sighted by Crew of the Steamship Parima.

Waterlogged and abandoned, the schooner John R. Berger, of New London, Conn., was passed on Friday by the steamship Parima, which arrived yesterday from the West Indies.

Officers of the Parima said that miles away from the schooner floated the greater part of her cargo of lumber, which had been washed overboard by the waves, but had not been scattered. Some of the schooner's sails were still set, and her rudder was gone and her engine was very rusty. Apparently she had been deserted only a short time.

HARD STUDY WINS VICTORY.

William Leonard Cons Task Twenty Hours Daily for Ten Days and Goes to Annapolis.

By studying twenty hours daily for ten days, William Leonard, seventeen years old, of No. 32 Sixth avenue, Brooklyn, won a competitive examination for an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., at the request of William M. Calder, Representative in Congress.

Although he had not been in school for three years, Leonard, who was employed as a Manhattan dry goods store, secured a letter of admission as soon as he heard of the examination and began to study. He was announced yesterday as winner, among twenty competitors nearly all of whom are now in Brooklyn high schools.

BREWER'S DAUGHTER AND MAN SHE WED.



Mrs. Edward Scharrer. Lieutenant Edward Scharrer.

Conspired to Rob by Damage Claims

Controller Metz Believes Employees of Finance Department and Lawyers Had Working Agreement.

That there was a working agreement between employees of the Finance Department and the lawyers who were prosecuting alleged fraudulent sewer damage claims against the city is one of the revelations of the investigation by the Grand Jury of Kings county, which has so far resulted in the indictment of twelve persons. Controller Metz is convinced of this and is anxious to find out if any of his present employees have been parties to this collusion.

One instance of this working agreement was presented to District Attorney John F. Clarke yesterday, and it showed that the lawyers were the first to learn that a claim for damages had been presented. In this particular case the man had received no report on his case and is convinced that he would have received money from the city before this time if he had employed one of the lawyers who solicited his business.

Thomas Marshall is a small storekeeper, Fifth avenue, near Forty-fifth street, Brooklyn, and last September the sewer backed up, flooding his cellar and destroying about \$200 worth of goods. He contacted a lawyer, but to present his claim direct and he would get as much and would save the lawyer's fees.

The claim was made out in the regular way and forwarded to the Controller's office, but the only knowledge he had that it had been received came from rumors for lawyers who went to see him in two or three days and asked that they be given the claim. Instead of doing this he wrote a personal letter to Controller Groat, sending it to Mr. Groat's home, at No. 350 Capitol street. In reply to this he received a letter from Mr. Groat, which gave the

number of the claim and said that the matter would be taken up at once.

Two weeks afterward an inspector from the Finance Department called on Marshall and after looking over the preliminary report on his case and the flood had by that time been removed, declared that no damages had been sustained, and gave no encouragement that anything would be allowed. That is the last Marshall heard of the matter.

"There is no one more anxious to find out who these employees are than I," Mr. Metz declared. "I have given to District Attorney Clarke all of the records in the office and I am working with him in every way possible to find out who the guilty men are."

The March Grand Jury, which will be sworn in to-morrow, will devote the greater part of the time to consideration of sewer cases. District Attorney Clarke declined to talk about the investigation yesterday, but it is known that many more indictments are expected and that other prominent men will be brought in.

The indictment of Mirabeau L. Towns and Edward J. McCrossin for chicanery has thrown many Brooklyn lawyers into a panic. It is known that many lawyers who make a specialty of prosecuting negligence and other damage cases are guilty of the same offense, and while it is only a misdemeanor it is one of the few misdemeanors which carry disbarment with conviction.

DINNER FOR MR. SHIRLEY.

Charles Shirley, former manager of the main operating department of the Postal Telegraph Company, in No. 23 Broadway, was last night honored by three hundred of his associates, who gave a dinner for him in the Hotel St. Francis, Brooklyn. It was intended as a mark of esteem and congratulation upon his promotion to the superintendency of the New York city district of the company.

Electrical effects were employed among the decorations. Representatives from every department in the organization were present.

LADY FORBES HERE FOR LOCAL COLOR

English Authoress to Write a Novel About America's Wealthy Folk.

ADMIRE SKYSCRAPERS

Wonders Why All the Buildings Are Not Tall, so That the Sky Line Would Be Uniform.

OUR WOMEN DRESS WELL

However, She Doesn't Think They Are So Pretty as Their English Cousins—Favors International Marriages.

After a three days' visit in New York to get "local color" for a new novel in the ultra-rich class of Americans living in the metropolis, Lady Helen Forbes, of Scotland, sister of the Earl of Craven, left yesterday, accompanied by her husband, Ian Forbes, captain in the Gordon Highlanders, for the West.

One object of Lady Helen's visit to America was to arrange for the American rights of her recently completed novel, "Lady Marlan and the Plutocrats," which also deals with American moneybags, represented by the hero, an American, who, contrary to the usual custom, falls desperately in love with a titled English woman.

Part of the scene is laid in Texas, where the fellow, though as rich as Croesus, is breaking and herding cows like the veriest "puncher" of the plains. It doesn't matter that Lady Helen has only just seen New York for the first time and has never been on a Texas cow ranch in her life, for she has a friend who has been there and has detailed his experience sufficiently for her to obtain the "local color" necessary for a typical American novel.

Apocryphal of American men falling in love with English women, Lady Helen is per-

haps suggesting a course which she thinks might even up the game. It is to be suspected that she is a bit of a match maker after all, though so far as is known her brother, the Earl of Craven, managed his own suit when he made love to and married Miss Bradley Martin, of New York.

International Marriages.

When seen at her apartments in the Hotel Astor shortly before leaving the city, Lady Helen very frankly said she thought it a pity that more English girls shouldn't marry American men.

"Do you know, I'm a firm believer in international marriages," she declared brightly at the outset, "for all of those I know about on the other side are so tremendously happy, and after all, one's own happiness is of far more account than titles or more material things."

One could never mistake Lady Helen Forbes being other than an Englishwoman, although she quaintly asserted that "she was Scotch by marriage," having married a Scot who is no end of a fine fellow, besides looking high rank in the army.

She is large in stature, with the light brown hair and brilliant coloring which the English folk lend to the women of her race, and, gowned in an English tweed typically American before she had spoken a word, while her voice betrayed evidences of her nationality.

Lady Forbes is enthusiastic on the subject of Americans. It might be said of a "jolly" for there was at times when speaking of American wealth a sly twinkle in her eye that betokened an undercurrent of humorous sarcasm. However, she is sure she has "done" New York.

"And your skyscrapers!" she exclaimed.

"Why, I think they are lovely, only there is not enough of them. Why not a city of skyscrapers? It would be so much more uniform. I think the tall buildings gave me my first distinct impression of New York. From accounts that I had heard I expected to find them very ugly, but on the contrary they are fine and seem so interesting. You have the biggest buildings, the prettiest women, the richest men—there is nothing comparative."

And, Oh, the Bridge!

"Next to the high office buildings, which from the day give one the impression of looking through an elongated mirror, I think Central Park delighted me most. We have nothing like it in London. Then, I think your Brooklyn Bridge is a wonderful structure. We walked over, rather, were blown across it, and when the weather permitted, enjoyed the view tremendously. Your trains are particularly fine, it seems to me, and certainly it's an extremely easy place to find one's way about in. I was really enchanted with the subway. Yes, I must admit that there was a feeling of en-

location, but one quickly gets over it on reaching the surface, and it is so superior to our tuppenny tube that I hardly think one ought to complain. There is that sulphurous smell in London which makes travelling so unbearable.

It was on the woman question, however, that Lady Forbes became most enthusiastic. Already she has had some of her preconceived notions knocked into a cocked hat, such as, for instance, the fallacy that American girls are bold, aggressive and loud voiced.

"To be sure, I have come across individual instances of noisy, aggressive American, but we have the polite, aggressive English woman as well. But from what I have seen of the women in the street, at the theatres and elsewhere they possess the same breeding one finds anywhere in a country where women enjoy the advantages of civilization."

"As a race your women are not as good looking as ours, but they wear their clothes better. They are like the French in that respect. You almost never see a pretty French woman, but somehow they put their clothes on well. As a matter of fact, you will see more actually pretty women in London or Dublin than anywhere else in the world. It's a wonder to me that your girls are as good looking as they are, considering that you live in such hot houses. It's ruinous to the complexion. Everywhere one goes the rooms are stuffy."

Like all English women, Lady Helen is an ardent sportswoman. She is a Hinduist, having travelled nearly all over the globe, and speaks six or seven languages.

ARRESTED AS A SHOPLIFTER.

Mrs. Ida M. Tweedie, a Brooklyn Artist, and Brother Taken in Sixth Avenue Store.

Charged with stealing a bale of silk valued at \$10 from a Sixth avenue department store, Mrs. Ida M. Tweedie, of No. 511 Vanderbilt avenue, Brooklyn, and a man, sympathetic note from "Barney," the said by her to be Louis Tweedie, her

brother, were arraigned before Magistrate Cornell yesterday. Mrs. Tweedie, who is an artist of considerable repute, was held in \$300 bail for Special Sessions, while the man was discharged.

Late on Friday afternoon, John Larkin, a private detective in the employ of a Sixth avenue departmental store noticed a well dressed man and woman walking around the store and handling things in a suspicious manner. At last he saw the woman take a bale of silk, valued at \$10, from a counter and slip it into a satchel she was carrying. At the Tenderloin police station a letter was found on the woman addressed to "Mrs. Ida M. Tweedie, No. 511 Vanderbilt avenue, Brooklyn," and she admitted her identity.

On Mrs. Tweedie were also found a large number of receipts for purchases at the store in question, which showed that during the last year and a half she had purchased and paid for goods to the value of over \$3,000. No answer was vouchsafed to callers at the Brooklyn residence last night.

MORPHINE HIDDEN IN CAKE.

Attempt Made by Friend to Smuggle Drug to Prisoner in Police Headquarters.

Sergeant Mannon, in Police Headquarters, last night, frustrated efforts of a sympathetic friend who signed himself "Barney" to smuggle into a cell to a prisoner a sufficient quantity of morphine to have caused the death of an ordinary man.

Frank Mitchell and William Albert, whose pictures are in the Rogues' Gallery, were arrested in the Bowery as suspicious persons. Soon after they were locked up a messenger arrived at Headquarters with a superbly frosted cake for Mitchell, accompanying it was a note from "Barney" offering sympathy and hoping the cake would fill a long felt want.

Sergeant Mannon ordered an autopsy on the cake, and in it were discovered fifteen large doses of morphine and another note from "Barney." The cake went into a furnace.

DRY GOODS, &C.

DRY GOODS, &C.

Lord & Taylor

Direct attention to a Special Sale of

Women's New Spring Suits

for this week, consisting of

New Eton Model Suits of Chiffon Panama; colors, rose, Alice blue, gray, reseda and black; also in Tropical Worsteds in the new Queen's gray. At \$29.50

New Pony Coat Model Suits, also in Panama and Mixtures. Real value \$40.00

White Serge Reefer Suits, also White Serge, with black hair line, in the new reefer model.

New Eton Model Suits of imported Voile; colors, black, coral, reseda, Alice, gray and navy; entire suit made over Taffeta silk. Very smart Eton coat with application of lace and braids, with new circular gore skirt. At \$40.00 Real value \$50.00

The above Models are confined to our house, thereby insuring exclusiveness.

Women's Brussels Net Waists

Entirely new. For the coming season. On display and sale this week.

White Brussels Net Waists, with fancy lace insertion trimming, and 3/4 sleeve. Value \$8.50. \$5.90

White Brussels Net Waists, trimmed with rows of Val. lace insertion on body, round lace yoke, 3/4 sleeve, Val. lace trimmed. Value \$10.00. \$7.90

The above are exclusive to our house.

SILK ANNOUNCEMENT

OF Unusual Importance.

We purchased last week from a prominent silk manufacturer 254 pieces "Pompadour Silks" that have been regularly sold from \$1.00 up to \$1.75 a yard.

The greater part are white ground, also pink, light gray, champagne, light cadet, Nile green, yellow, shrimp pink, light blue and black ground. On sale Monday morning and as long as they last

at 68c. and 85c. a yard.

Manufacturers and dressmakers should not miss this opportunity of securing a desirable silk at small cost.

Dress Goods

In black we show many exclusive embroidered novelties not to be found elsewhere. Priestley and Lupin Black Dress Goods in all the desirable weaves, plain and fancy, at popular prices.

Colored Dress Fabrics.

The range of Spring Dress Goods includes an elaborate display of "Queen's Gray," in plain, fancy and tailoring effects. Also cream Panama Serges, Cheviot, Henrietta and Silk and Wool and Silk Voiles and Eolienne, in the new colorings, at the lowest market prices.

Wash Goods Dept.

Special Sale of 5,000 yards ENGLISH WOVEN VOILE,

one of the most desirable summer fabrics, in Shepherd checks, light blue and white, navy, black, gray, red, green, pink and lavender. Value 40c., at 25c. yard.

Also an Important Offering of Sheer Cotton Dress Fabrics

Including a large variety of very desirable fabrics in most attractive designs and colors, in small, neat effects. Special value. 25c. yd.

10,000 Yards Best Quality

Domestic Printed Batiste and Percales

Large assortment of polka dots, figures, plain and fancy stripes, floral designs, in pink, blue and lavender. Special value. 12 1/2c. yd.

Broadway and 20th St., 5th Av., 19th St.

Lord & Taylor.

March Sale of Muslin Underwear, Silk Petticoats, Corsets & Kimonos Commencing Monday, March 5th.

Night Gowns, 50c., 75c., 98c., \$1.25, \$1.95 & \$2.95

Corset Covers and Drawers, 50c., 75c., 98c., \$1.25, \$1.95

Chemises, 75c., 98c., \$1.25, \$1.95, \$2.45

Skirts, 98c., \$1.25, \$1.95, \$2.45, \$2.95 to \$5.00

A Sample Line of Fine Gowns, Skirts, Chemises and Drawers At Manufacturers' Prices

Silk Petticoats

In White, Black, Black and White and Colored Taffeta in all the new spring shades in a large variety of styles (in best quality taffeta);

87, 89, 42 inches long, \$5.95, \$6.95, \$8.75 & \$10.75, value \$8.00 to \$16.75.

Kimonos.

Long Kimonos,

In Oriental, Persian and Dotted Crepon. \$1.85
In Flowered Lawn. \$1.75
In Plain and Flowered Dotted Swiss and Fancy Striped Mull. \$1.85
In Shantung Poplin. \$2.95
In Albatross. \$3.75
In Flowered Silk. \$4.95

Short Kimonos.

In Crepon, plain colors. 98c
In Crepon, Oriental patterns. \$1.25
In Flowered Lawn. 75c
In Flowered Dotted Swiss. 98c
In Silk Finish Material, Japanese patterns \$1.25

Corsets.

Straight Front Corsets.

In Fine Batiste, attached supporters, at \$1.35 & \$1.65, value \$2.50 to \$3.00.

In Brocade Batiste, attached supporters, \$2.75, value \$5.00.

In Brocade Batiste, genuine whalebone, attached supporters, \$3.75, value \$10.00.

Broadway and 20th St., 5th Av., 19th St.

Lord & Taylor

HOUSEHOLD LINENS

33% to 40% below regular prices

Table Cloths and Napkins of fine Irish Satin Damask, fully 25 choice designs to select from, direct from the looms of one of Ireland's best manufacturers, at following greatly reduced prices:—

Tablecloths. 2x2 yds., \$1.85, \$2.00, \$3.45 and \$4.80; regular \$2.75, \$3.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 grades.

Tablecloths. 2x3 yds., \$2.80, \$3.00, \$5.20 and \$6.40; regular \$4.15, \$4.50, \$7.00 and \$9.00 grades.

Larger sizes at proportional reductions. Table Napkins to match, dinner size, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$4.90 and \$6.35 dozen. \$3.75, \$4.25, \$7.25 and \$9.25 grades.

TOWELS.

200 dozen extra quality H. S. Huck Towels, regular \$5.00 quality, at \$3.50 dozen.

Hand Embroidered Linen Sheets and Pillow Cases.

100 pairs hand embroidered Linen Sheets, \$7.75 pair, reduced from \$12.50.

175 pairs hand embroidered Pillow cases, \$2.95 pair, reduced from \$4.25.

Hand Embroidered Waist Patterns and Panels

from Ireland and France.

Advance importations in exclusive styles and our own special creations. Linens in weights that are to be used this season are shown in an almost endless variety of designs.

Waists \$2.50 to \$15.00.

Panels, including waist and skirt, handsomely embroidered, \$11.00 to \$58.50.

BLANKET DEPARTMENT.

Clearance of Slightly Soiled Blankets,

250 Pairs of Eastern and California Wool Blankets very slightly soiled, at 35% to 45% less than former prices. This offering is most extraordinary; prices range from \$1.75 to \$10.50 pair. Formerly \$2.75 to \$15.00.

Broadway and 20th St., 5th Av., 19th St.